



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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EMD Disaster Update

March 23, 2006 - - Flash #4

SEMA's Tornado Website Offers Information

The link to the situations reports, press releases, FEMA information, and IA and PA program guides for the recent severe weather is: <http://sema.dps.mo.gov/SevereStormsMarch2006.htm>

Missouri Requests 35 Additional Counties for IA Declaration

Missouri asked that 35 counties be added to the Individual Assistance Disaster Declaration of March 16, 2006. Those counties are: Bates, Benton, Boone, Butler, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Chariton, Cooper, Dunklin, Greene, Henry, Howard, Iron, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Mississippi, Montgomery, Morgan, New Madrid, Newton, Phelps, Putnam, Ralls, Ray, St. Clair, Scott, Stoddard, Stone, Taney, Vernon, Webster and Wright to the Individual Assistance Declaration. Based on the damage assessment information collected from the SEMA/FEMA Damage Assessment teams, Blunt may request additional counties to be added to the Disaster Declarations.

Citizens Must Call 1-800-621-FEMA For Federal Assistance

On Thursday, March 16, a Presidential Disaster Declaration was approved for nine counties for Individual Assistance and seven counties for Public Assistance. Individuals in the declared counties are urged to call the FEMA Assistance hotline: **1-800-621-3362 (1-800-621-FEMA) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY)** between the hours of 8 a.m. – 6 p.m., seven days a week.

3 Mobile Disaster Recovery Centers Established, More Planned

Three mobile FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers were opened to provide face-to-face information for citizens who suffered damages. While citizens are encouraged to register before going to the mobile center, citizens may also register via the 800 number at the centers.

The mobile centers will be opened Sunday noon-6 p.m., Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. until further notice. Mobile Centers are currently located in:

- Sedalia (Pettis County) at the Missouri National Guard Armory on the Missouri State Fairgrounds (2001 Clarendon Road);
- Paris, (Monroe County) at the library, 101 N. Main Street; and
- Nixa (Christian County) at the Community Center, 701 N Taylor Way. (New Location)

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and FEMA are working closely with local elected .

Joint Assessment Teams Collect Public Assistance Information

Based on the information received from local counties, joint SEMA/FEMA Joint Public Assistance Damage Assessment Teams are visiting local county governments to collect information on damages

to public property and debris management. The teams rely on information, maps, and expertise provided by local governments to conduct information.

DNR Posts Disaster and Debris Waiver Information

The Department of Natural Resources lists information for counties on disaster waivers and fact sheets. The link is: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/disaster.htm>

Guide to Public Assistance (Emergency and Debris Removal)

A Guide to the Federal Disaster Assistance “Public Assistance Program” has been posted to the SEMA website. This guide outlines eligible applicants, eligible work, the application process, project requirement, and A Q&A section. The link is: <http://www.fema.gov/rrr/pa/overview.shtm>

REMEMBER: Many private debris management companies will be seeking disaster-related work in local communities. Some of them may claim FEMA authorized them to remove debris from local areas. Local and County governments must follow bidding practices.

Help After the Storm, A Guide to Individual & Household Programs

“Help After the Storm, A Federal Guide to Individual and Household Program” has been posted to the SEMA website. This guide will help local governments answer questions from citizens concerning disaster assistance. The link is: <http://sema.dps.mo.gov/chuck1.pdf>

Farm Service Administration Can Help Farmers/Producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) **Farm Services Offices** can help rural farmers/producers through an Emergency Conservation Services program. Farmers/producers are urged to contact their county FSA offices to report damages and seek assistance. **EMDs can call the FSA offices in Columbia at 573-876-0932 for more information.** Here is the link to USDA’s disaster assistance program on the SEMA homepage: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/emloan.htm>

University Extension Tornado Website Activated

Here is the link to the University Extension’s Emergency Management Web Page: <http://outreach.missouri.edu/cemp/>

Sirens

Since the recent tornadoes, the issue of sirens has become a hot topic. Remember: local jurisdictions are responsible for maintaining their Early Warning Sirens. Unfortunately, no state funding is available for maintenance.

The USDA has grant and low interest loan programs for rural jurisdictions to purchase of siren systems. Jurisdictions must apply through the local USDA program offices.

FEMA does not fund outdoor warning systems; nor can sirens be purchased using Pre-Disaster Mitigation funds. SEMA, the National Weather Service and the Rural Electric Cooperatives installed a series of NOAA transmitters, which activate tone-alert weather radios to warn citizens of severe weather.

Blue Valley/Federal Sirens is an exhibitor at the MEPA/SEMA Spring Conference.